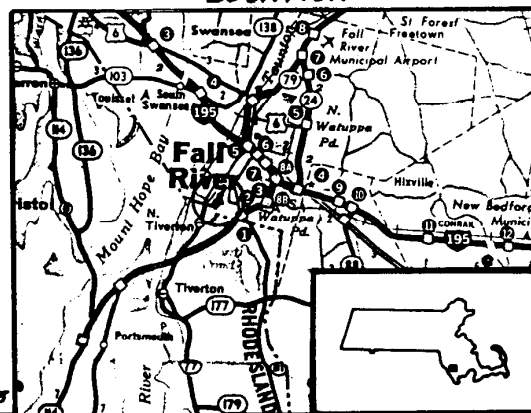


**COOK POND**  
**FALL RIVER**  
**AREA = 154 Acres**

**LOCATION**



NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

3-83

## **COOK POND**

**Fall River**

***Bristol County***

***Mount Hope Bay Watershed***

*Latitude: 41.6776944 N*

*Longitude: 71.1733621 W*



**154 Acres**

**Depth: 10 feet Average**

**18 feet Maximum**

**Primary Gamefish**

***Largemouth Bass***

### **General Information:**

Cook Pond is a 154 acre warmwater pond, which has an average depth of 10 feet and a maximum depth of 18 feet. This pond is also known as Laurel Lake. The fertile water has a transparency of 6.5 feet or less, and the bottom is composed of rubble, rock and muck. The 2.6 miles of shoreline are only lightly developed despite the high population density of the surrounding area. Emergent vegetation is common and submergent vegetation is scant. A heavy algae bloom often occurs during the summer months. Boaters should beware of the numerous rocks that occur in this pond, especially in the northern end.

### **Access:**

Access to Cook Pond is provided by a paved boat ramp. It is located at the end of Henry Street, which is off Laurel Street. The paved parking area can accommodate approximately 50 vehicles. Under the management of the Office of Fishing and Boating Access of the Department of Fish and Game are scheduled for rebuilding. Once completed, the day to day maintenance of the new facility will be the responsibility of the city of Fall River under the guidelines of the Department.

### **Management History:**

This pond has had historic stockings of smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, bluegill, crappie, white perch, yellow perch and bullhead (horned pout). It was surveyed on July 26, 1952 and contained golden shiners, white perch, chain pickerel, bluegills, yellow perch, brown bullheads, pumpkinseed and smallmouth bass. This pond was reclaimed in September 1971 and is undoubtedly one of the most fertile ponds in Massachusetts. The reclamation resulted in 57,900 pounds of fish being removed composed of 92.1% white perch, 4.0% yellow perch, 1.5% golden shiner, 0.9% brown bullhead, 0.7% pumpkinseed, 0.4% bluegill, 0.3% largemouth bass, 0.1% or less of killifish, chain pickerel and black crappie. The estimated carrying capacity of the pond was 450 pounds of fish per acre! It was then restocked with largemouth bass. It was stocked with tiger muskies in 1980, 1987 and 1991.

### **Fish Populations:**

The pond was last fully surveyed in 1979. Seven species of fish were sampled at that time. Gamefish sampled were largemouth bass and chain pickerel. Panfish, by order of abundance, were yellow perch, bluegill, white perch and pumpkinseed. Golden shiners provide a forage base. A short sampling operation in 1994 directed at evaluating the tiger muskie stockings came up with large numbers of white and yellow perch averaging a half pound to a pound.

### **Fishing:**

Fishing at Cook Pond is exceptional due to the fertility of the water, but because fishing pressure is high, large gamefish are fairly scarce. Largemouth bass are clearly the most abundant gamefish to target. Panfish are an excellent resource here, particularly the yellow perch which are very abundant and range up to about a foot in length. Bluegills and pumpkinseeds are also common and of good average size. Another excellent fishing pond nearby is South Watuppa Pond.

*Updated: February 15, 2007 S.T.H.*